

3rd AF commanders to examine AFA interest

By Capt. Patrick Ryder
Public affairs

Third Air Force senior commanders will address Air Force Association members from RAFs Lakenheath and Mildenhall at a luncheon Jan. 23 to determine interest in starting a local AFA chapter.

Maj. Gen. Tad Oelstrom, 3rd AF com-

mander, and Col. Vince Horrigan, 3rd AF vice-commander, will speak about the Air Force's 50th anniversary and several AFA issues from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Mildenhall's officers' club. Non-AFA members interested in joining are also invited.

"The AFA is an independent, civilian, non-profit aerospace organization that addresses the defense responsibilities of the United States," said Lt. Col. Michael Bradley, luncheon organizer. "It's mission is to educate people on what aerospace technology can contribute to mankind."

While not officially endorsed by the U.S. Air Force, the organization consists mainly of active duty Air Force personnel, Air Force guard and reserve members, military cadets, veterans, retirees and civilians. First begun after World War II, the organization now has over 170,000 members worldwide, according to the AFA.

The sandwich luncheon costs \$7.50 per person and dress is uniform of the day. Due to limited seating, anyone interested in attending should call Bradley no later than Jan. 20 at Lakenheath at Ext. 3737 (e-mail: bradley@m48fw.lakenheath.af.mil), or Lt. Col. Scott Phillips at Mildenhall at Ext. 2008 (e-mail: phillips@100arw.mildenhall.af.mil).



Liberty Wing gets new RAF commander

Squadron Leader Martin Godfrey took over as RAF commander for RAF Lakenheath Jan. 8. Godfrey comes to the Liberty Wing from the Falkland Islands where he served in the British Forces Headquarters. Godfrey replaces Squadron Leader Jeff Harker who is now assigned to the British Embassy in Washington D.C.

Fighter Squadrons deploy

More than 200 members from the 493rd and 494th Fighter Squadrons are deploying to Incirlik AB, Turkey, throughout the week to participate in the successor mission to Operation Provide Comfort.

They will be in Turkey for 90 days to fly sorties enforcing the U.N. declared "no fly zone" above the Northern Iraq 36th parallel. Hundreds of Kurdish refugees fled to this area following Desert Storm escaping Saddam Hussain's repression.

During the deployment, wing units will be part of coalition forces from the United States, Great Britain and Turkey.

Chief of staff describes themes for 1997

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman has said he is focusing on people and vision in 1997.

In his first year as chief of staff, the general emphasized people and stability.

During his second year, he stressed people and modernization. In 1997, he has added the recently released strategic vision for the Air Force — "Global Engagement."

"The people who make up our Air Force team are the most important thing for our service to focus on," Fogleman said.

"They are the foundation of our strength. We must recruit, train and retain the highest quality force possible. If we are to be successful, then we must take care of our people and their families."

The chief of staff said Air Force leaders will aggressively support the service's broad

strategy for enhancing quality of life for its people. That strategy is designed to secure fair and equitable compensation, safe and affordable housing, quality health care, balanced personnel tempo, effective community programs, sustained retirement ben-

efits and expanded educational opportunities.

"Additionally," the general stressed, "we will seek increased funding for recruiting and advertising to sustain our aggressive efforts to attract high-caliber people into our Air Force."

Fogleman said, "Our second major

theme for 1997 is the Air Force's new strategic vision — 'Global Engagement.' This is not my vision, nor Secretary [of the Air Force Sheila E.] Widnall's vision. It is the Air Force's vision for the first quarter of the 21st century."

"It's the product of an 18-month plan-

ning effort by senior military and civilian leaders to define the role of air and space power for the nation in the next century. Therefore, it is essential that all Air Force members become familiar with this new vision and what it means for our service as we prepare to enter the 21st century."

A key element of this vision is a revised list of core competencies that the Air Force will provide the nation to underwrite future warfighting concepts laid out by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in his "Joint Vision 2010" document.

The core competencies are air and space superiority, global attack, rapid global mobility, precision engagement, information superiority and agile combat support.

"We will provide these core competencies for the nation by fielding the air and space capabilities that come through our balanced, time-phased modernization program," said the general. That program includes the following:

- 120 C-17s for rapid global mobility in the near-term;

- Conventional bomber upgrades and precision munitions for global attack and

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***Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman
Air Force Chief of Staff***